



Plans

When I write these newsletter articles I'm usually composing them a week or two before they appear in your mailbox. Normally, that's not a problem because I can anticipate what will be going on in advance and plan my comments accordingly. This article is a little different, though, because that time period of the end of November and beginning of December is pretty murky from my present perspective. I hope that two weeks from now we will be settled (or at least settling) into our new location with the first of our programs in place and a Sunday service already behind us, but as I write this we are still some distance from that point. In the event, it may be necessary to bump some of our earlier plans back a bit to accommodate the construction work, but what follows is the tentative outline for our first couple of weeks in our new facility.

Friday, Nov. 26 – Moving Day

9:00am Morning Prayer

9:30am Cleaning, furniture moving, Sacristy, office and Sanctuary set-up

Saturday, Nov. 27

9:00am Morning Prayer

9:30am Set up continues

Sunday, Nov. 28 – 1st Sunday in Advent

10:30am Holy Eucharist

Monday – Friday

6:00am Morning Prayer

6:00pm Evening Prayer

Sunday, December 5 – 2nd Sunday in Advent

10:30am Holy Eucharist

12:00 noon Parish Meeting and Vestry Elections

Saturday, December 11

Time TBA - Participate in Magnolia Christmas Parade

As you can see, we'll be busy from our first day. I look forward to greeting you in our new church!

In Christ,
Craig+

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Our Mission Is: We Will Know, Love, Serve, and Obey Christ and Will Make Him Known to Others!

Our Core Values:

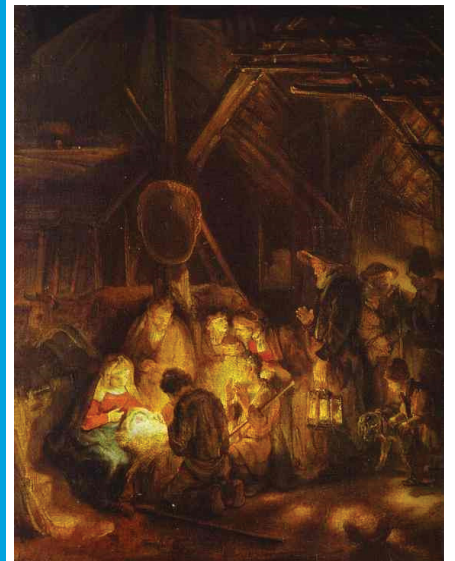
Growing and Discipling the Family of God

Reflecting the Love of God Through Hospitality, Friendship and Fellowship

Encountering the Living God Through Traditional and Contemporary Worship

Raising and Nurturing Children through the Grace of God

Sharing God's Love By Reaching Out to the Needy, Broken, and Oppressed.



Adoration of the Shepherds
Harmenszoon vanRijn Rembrandt
1646

God's Special Place

Our Christmas Calendar begins with the season of Advent. It is a time for celebrating the truth about God - the revelation of God in Christ - whereby all creation might be reconciled to God. It is a time of spiritual reflection, of preparation, and of longing, as well as cheer and anticipation.

The following story is true. I found it in a devotional last Christmas, and want to share it with you. It will give you an entirely different perspective on the situation Mary and Joseph found themselves in that special night so many years ago.

As a young girl in the late 1920's, Grace Ditmanson Adams often traveled with her missionary parents through inland China. Later, she wrote about those trips and the crowded places where they stayed overnight – village inns full of people coughing, sneezing, and smoking, while babies cried and children complained. Her family put their bedrolls on board-covered trestles in a large room with everyone else.

One snowy night, they arrived at an inn to find it packed full. The inn-keeper expressed his regret, then paused and said, "Follow me". He led them to a side room used to store straw and farm equipment. There they slept in a quiet place of their own.

After that, whenever Grace read that "*Mary brought forth her first born Son, . . . and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn*". (Luke 2:7), she saw the event differently. While some described the inn-keeper as an example of uncaring, sinful mankind who rejected the Savior, Grace said, "I truly believe the Almighty God used the inn-keeper as the arranger for a healthier place than the crowded inn – a place of privacy".

Through the eyes of faith, we see God's provision for Mary. Look for ways He provides for you. (David McCasland). On this special night God came to live with us so that we could live with Him. Have a blessed Advent and Christmas season.

Love in Christ,
Pat



FOR UNTO YOU IS
BORN THIS DAY
IN THE CITY OF
DAVID A SAVIOUR,
WHICH IS CHRIST
THE LORD.

LUKE 2:11

HAPPY Birthday

12/05 Leanna Ramirez
12/10 Missy Moritz
12/13 Pat Williams
12/15 Lisa Bushong
12/16 Leslie Hair
12/17 Marissa Baggett
Godik Glydenege
12/18 Terry Thomas
12/27 Maggie Heenan
12/31 Shelia Chandler

